Comprehensive planning

Planning that takes into account all aspects of water, air, and land resources and their uses and limits.

**Conservation district** 

A public organization created under state enabling law as a special-purpose district to develop and carry out a program of soil, water, and related resource conservation, use, and development within its boundaries, usually a subdivision of state government with a local governing body and always with limited authority. Often called a soil conservation district or a soil and water conservation district.

**Constructed wetland** 

Those wetlands intentionally created on sites that are not wetlands for the primary purpose of wastewater or stormwater treatment and managed as such. Constructed wetlands are normally considered as part of the stormwater collection and treatment system.

Construction
Stormwater Pollution
Prevention Plan

A document that describes the potential for pollution problems on a construction project and explains and illustrates the measures to be taken on the construction site to control those problems.

**Contour** 

An imaginary line on the surface of the earth connecting points of the same elevation.

Contractor Erosion and Spill Control Lead (CESCL) The employee designated as the responsible representative in charge of erosion and spill control. The CESCL shall have a current certificate in construction site erosion and sediment control from Associated General Contractors – Education Foundation or approved equivalent.

Conveyance

A mechanism for transporting water from one point to another, including pipes, ditches, and channels.

Conveyance system

The drainage facilities, both natural and man-made, which collect, contain, and provide for the flow of surface and stormwater from the highest points on the land down to a receiving water. The natural elements of the conveyance system include swales and small drainage courses, streams, rivers, lakes, and wetlands. The human-made elements of the conveyance system include gutters, ditches, pipes, channels, and most retention/detention facilities.

Cover crop

A close-growing crop grown primarily for the purpose of protecting and improving soil between periods of permanent vegetation.

**Created wetland** 

Means those wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland sites to produce or replace natural wetland habitat (e.g., compensatory mitigation projects).

**Short circuiting** The passage of runoff through a BMP in less than the design treatment

time.

**Siltation** The process by which a river, lake, or other waterbody becomes

clogged with sediment. Silt can clog gravel beds and prevent

successful salmon spawning.

Site The area within the legal boundaries of a parcel or parcels of land that

is (are) subject to new development or redevelopment. For road projects, the length of the project site and the right-of-way boundaries

define the site.

**Slope** Degree of deviation of a surface from the horizontal; measured as a

numerical ratio, percent, or in degrees. Expressed as a ratio, the first number is the horizontal distance (run) and the second is the vertical distance (rise), as 2:1. A 2:1 slope is a 50 percent slope. Expressed in degrees, the slope is the angle from the horizontal plane, with a 90° slope being vertical (maximum) and 45° being a 1:1 or 100 percent

slope.

**Sloughing** The sliding of overlying material. It is the same effect as caving, but it

usually occurs when the bank or an underlying stratum is saturated or

scoured.

**Soil** The unconsolidated mineral and organic material on the immediate

surface of the earth that serves as a natural medium for the growth of land plants. See also topsoil, engineered soil/landscape system, and

properly functioning soil system.

Soil group, hydrologic A classification of soils by the Soil Conservation Service into four

runoff potential groups. The groups range from A soils, which are very permeable and produce little or no runoff, to D soils, which are

not very permeable and produce much more runoff.

**Soil horizon** A layer of soil, approximately parallel to the surface, which has

distinct characteristics produced by soil-forming factors.

**Soil profile** A vertical section of the soil from the surface through all horizons,

including C horizons.

**Soil structure** The relation of particles or groups of particles which impart to the

whole soil a characteristic manner of breaking; some types are crumb structure, block structure, platy structure, and columnar structure.

**Soil permeability** The ease with which gases, liquids, or plant roots penetrate or pass

through a layer of soil.

The toe of a slope is a distinct topographic break in slope that separates slopes inclined at less than 40% from slopes 40% or steeper. Where no distinct break exists, the toe of a steep slope is the lowermost limit of the area where the ground surface drops ten feet or more vertically within a horizontal distance of 25 feet; AND

The top of a slope is a distinct topographic break in slope that separates slopes inclined at less than 40% from slopes 40% or steeper. Where no distinct break exists, the top of a steep slope is the uppermost limit of the area where the ground surface drops ten feet or more vertically within a horizontal distance of 25 feet.

**Storage routing** 

A method to account for the attenuation of peak flows passing through a detention facility or other storage feature.

Storm drains

The enclosed conduits that transport surface and stormwater runoff toward points of discharge (sometimes called storm sewers).

Storm drain system

Refers to the system of gutters, pipes, streams, or ditches used to carry surface and stormwater from surrounding lands to streams, lakes, or Puget Sound.

**Storm frequency** 

The time interval between major storms of predetermined intensity and volumes of runoff for which storm sewers and other structures are designed and constructed to handle hydraulically without surcharging and backflooding, e.g., a 2-year, 10-year or 100-year storm.

Storm sewer

A sewer that carries stormwater and surface water, street wash and other wash waters or drainage, but excludes sewage and industrial wastes. Also called a storm drain.

Stormwater

That portion of precipitation that does not naturally percolate into the ground or evaporate, but flows via overland flow, interflow, pipes and other features of a stormwater drainage system into a defined surface waterbody, or a constructed infiltration facility.

Stormwater drainage system

Constructed and natural features which function together as a system to collect, convey, channel, hold, inhibit, retain, detain, infiltrate, divert, treat or filter stormwater.

Stormwater facility

A constructed component of a stormwater drainage system, designed or constructed to perform a particular function, or multiple functions. Stormwater facilities include, but are not limited to, pipes, swales, ditches, culverts, street gutters, detention ponds, retention ponds, constructed wetlands, infiltration devices, catch basins, oil/water separators, and biofiltration swales.

**Total solids** 

The solids in water, sewage, or other liquids, including the dissolved, filterable, and nonfilterable solids. The residue left when the moisture is evaporated and the remainder is dried at a specified temperature, usually 130°C.

**Total suspended solids** 

That portion of the solids carried by stormwater that can be captured on a standard glass filter.

**Total Maximum Daily** Load (TMDL) -Water Cleanup Plan

A calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources. A TMDL (also known as a Water Cleanup Plan) is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point and nonpoint sources. The calculation must include a margin of safety to ensure that the waterbody can be used for the purposes the State has designated. The calculation must also account for seasonable variation in water quality. Water quality standards are set by states, territories, and tribes. They identify the uses for each waterbody, for example, drinking water supply, contact recreation (swimming), and aquatic like support (fishing), and the scientific criteria to support that use. The Clean Water Act, section 303, establishes the water quality standards and TMDL programs.

**Toxic** Poisonous, carcinogenic, or otherwise directly harmful to life.

**Tract** A legally created parcel of property designated for special

nonresidential and noncommercial uses.

Trash rack A structural device used to prevent debris from entering a spillway or

other hydraulic structure.

Travel time The estimated time for surface water to flow between two points of

interest.

**Treatment BMP** A BMP that is intended to remove pollutants from stormwater. A few

> examples of treatment BMPs are detentionWet-ponds, oil/water separators, biofiltration swales, and constructed wetlands.

**Treatment liner** A layer of soil that is designed to slow the rate of infiltration and

provide sufficient pollutant removal so as to protect groundwater

quality.

**Treatment train** A combination of two or more treatment facilities connected in series.

**Turbidity** Dispersion or scattering of light in a liquid, caused by suspended solids

and other factors; commonly used as a measure of suspended solids in

a liquid.

## Wetpool

A pond or constructed wetland that stores runoff temporarily and whose normal discharge location is elevated so as to maintain a permanent pool of water between storm events.

## **Zoning ordinance**

An ordinance based on the police power of government to protect the public health, safety, and general welfare. It may regulate the type of use and intensity of development of land and structures to the extent necessary for a public purpose. Requirements may vary among various geographically defined areas called zones. Regulations generally cover such items as height and bulk of buildings, density of dwelling units, off-street parking, control of signs, and use of land for residential, commercial, industrial, or agricultural purposes. A zoning ordinance is one of the major methods for implementation of a comprehensive plan.